ADJOURNMENT MOTION.

PRESIDENT : I have received notice of motion for an adjournment of the business of the House, from Mr. A. K. Bhaskar. It reads:

> "I wish to move an adjournment motion for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz., the difficulty experienced today by the weavers in obtaining cotton yarn at controlled prices and regarding the swelling of prices by about 50 per cent. more than what was prevailing a week ago."

The honourable members being new may note that the rule as to adjournment motion is as follows. I am reading the matter from the Select Rulings of the Chair. It reads:

> " * * The rule is that notice of all adjournment motions must be given on the day the House opens unless there is some matter of urgent public importance which has arisen in the course of the session, in which case an adjournment motion on that particular matter will become admissible..... ....."

Therefore, unless the honourable member can convince the Chair that this situation has arisen between yesterday morning and this morning this motion must be declared inadmissible.

MR. A. K. BHASKAR : The situation arose yesterday.

PRESIDENT : I am afraid there is difference of opinion, in regard to that matter and I may inform the member that exactly the same question was brought to my notice a week ago. Any way you can explain the circumstance.

MR. A. K. BHASKAR : The position that was prevailing last week was quite different.

PRESIDENT : The matter could have been brought forward even yesterday then.

MR. A. K. BHASKAR : I may be permitted to explain the circumstance, Sir. The price of yarn yesterday was Rs. 14 and this morning it has gone up to Rs. 18-12-0. People who are actually in need of yarn for weaving before Onam are not able to procure it at the controlled price. They are feeling very much disturbed over the yarn affair. People who are engaged in cottage industry are keeping quiet for want of yarn at the moment as also on account of the difficulty of getting it at exorbitant prices.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI : May I know, what is the member's basis for that information? The control price of yarn is only Rs. 15.

MR. A. K. BHASKAR : That is a report from *Kaumudi*.

PRESIDENT : The honourable member cannot possibly quote from 'Kaumudi'. The honourable members ought to know that they should not quote from any newspaper unless they make themselves responsible for such statements. Newspaper statement is only hearsay and if the honourable member is going to adopt that he must make himself responsible for that. If it is so, it is a very serious matter, because when the control price of yarn is Rs. 15 and if anybody is going to sell at

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Rs. 18-12-0, steps will be taken against that person immediately, and he will be marched off to the place to which he belongs. So, does the honourable member make himself responsible for that statement in the 'Kaumudi'?

MR. A. K. BHASKAR : No, Sir.

PRESIDENT : Then, the question does not arise. But I may say at once that this Government will be grateful to Mr. Bhaskar or any one who may in the course of the day or tomorrow give me the name of a single tradesman or anybody who sold yarn for Rs. 18-12-0. If so, action will be taken on the matter.

GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET.

MR. J. E. A. PEREIRA (*Commercial and Industry, South*): One important matter that I wanted to stress before the House, and which I lost sight of yesterday, is about the urgency of a pier at Quilon. The idea has been mooted long ago, but so far nothing has been done. It is well known that business in Quilon is improving by fast strides. There are 20 cashewnut factories, one cotton mill, four mineral sand factories, half a dozen factories connected with war industries, besides a host of smaller ones. The construction of a pier is overdue. In fact I had the privilege of submitting a memorandum to the Government in collaboration with Mr. Johnson, late Manager of India Nut Co., and Mr. Polgreen of Messrs. Harrison and Crosfield. My request is that the matter may be treated as a most urgent one of the post war reconstruction schemes. I would also plead the problem of prevention of soil erosion raised by Mr. Narayana Pillai may be included along with the six major irrigation schemes. These two matters may be added to the twelve point programme and may be treated as 14 points.

As regards excess profit tax, I have to make a few observations. Representing as I do the interests of the commercial community, I cannot but protest against the imposition of the excess profit tax especially at a juncture when we have a plethora of surpluses. Further it was only last year the income-tax was raised by 50%. Sir, I understand the rate of income-tax in Cochin State is lower than here.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI : No, Sir. The income-tax is much higher.

MR. J. E. A. PEREIRA : The rate of income-tax is lower.

PRESIDENT : There the rate is decidedly much higher than in Travancore.

MR. J. E. A. PEREIRA : I am sorry for the mistake. Still the commercial community did not dream of 2 increases in income-tax in two consecutive years. It is hardly an encouragement for the community to develop the businesses. Further the rate of the excess profit tax is not mentioned. Yet a total of 25 lakhs is expected as the income out of it. How this computation is arrived at without fixing the basic rate. I am unable to follow. The Financial Secretary explains if the excess profit tax is introduced as an anti-inflatory measure that we must fall n line with the Imperial Government. I dare say any request of the

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